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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE REDOX PROCESS FOR PREPARING EMULSION POLYMER HAVING LOW FORMALDEHYDE CONTENT

A process for preparing an aqueous emulsion polymer including providing at least one ethylenically unsaturated monomer and a free radical redox initiator system under emulsion polymerization conditions, the redox initiator system composed of t-alkyl hydroperoxide, t-alkyl peroxide, or t-alkyl perester wherein the t-alkyl group includes at least 5 Carbon atoms and a non-formaldehydeforming reducing agent; and effecting the polymerization of at least some of the ethylenically unsaturated monomer is provided. Also provided is a process for reducing the residual ethylenically unsaturated monomer content of an aqueous emulsion polymer.